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October 7, 1996

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU REPEATS PANTHER POWER DAY AT FALL OPEN HOUSES

CHARLESTON -- Eastern Illinois University's admissions staff has designated Monday, Oct. 14 (Columbus Day) observed holiday and Monday, Nov. 11 (Veteran's Day) as "Panther Power Days" to coincide with the university's fall open houses for prospective students.

"Panther Power Days" was conceived two years ago by Admissions Director Dale Wolf, who wanted to make prospective students and their families visiting campus feel welcome and to bring the campus community closer together by showing their school spirit.

"What better time to show school spirit than when hundreds of high school and community college students and their families are on campus for fall open houses," Wolf said.

Wolf suggests that one way to display support for the university is for all members of the campus community, including students and employees, to wear their favorite EIU sweatshirt, T-shirt, hat, pin or other mementos for the university's fall open houses, the busiest days of the year on campus.

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PANTHER POWER DAYS

The Lobby Shop in the University Union will give free popcorn to anyone wearing EIU attire on Monday.

Boyd Bradshaw, open house coordinator, said, "'Panther Power Days' were a success last year with a record number of visitors on campus for open houses. We'd like a repeat performance for the open houses in October and November."

"'Panther Power Days' make visiting students and their families aware of Eastern students' enthusiasm and support for the university," Bradshaw said.

Bradshaw and the entire admissions staff encourage the campus community to "spread the word" about both "Panther Power Days."

"Whatever Eastern can do to make a good impression on prospective students and have fun at the same time, the better chance we have of getting them to enroll here," Wolf said.

"With total campus support from students, staff and administrators, 'Panther Power Days' can become a fun and beneficial way to show school spirit and increase new student enrollment," Wolf added.

The Oct. 14 and Nov. 11 open houses begin at 9 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Faculty from various academic departments and staff from student services, financial aid, housing and student life will be available until noon to answer questions. Tickets for complimentary lunch in the residence halls will be provided.

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PANTHER POWER DAYS

Other highlights include campus and residence hall tours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., departing from the University Ballroom in the Union, and departmental open houses from 1 to 3 p.m.

For more information, call the admissions office at 581-2223.

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